



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

INFORMATION SERVICE

OFFICE OF THE COORDINATOR OF FISHERIES

For Immediate Release
Friday, April 30, 1943 W

OWI-1734

Production of canned shrimp in Gulf and South Atlantic states during the first quarter of 1943 was approximately 20 percent lower than in the same period of 1942, Harold L. Ickes, Coordinator of Fisheries, announced today.

Cases of canned shrimp packed in plants under the supervision of the Food and Drug Administration numbered 48,739 for the quarter as against 60,839 for the like period of last year. The figures do not include the pack of unsupervised plants, but this pack is normally small.

The decline in shrimp production has been largely due to manpower shortages in both fishing and processing operations. A number of the larger vessels formerly used in shrimp trawling have been taken over by the armed forces. This, also, has contributed to the decline. To obtain even the reduced production so far recorded this year it has been necessary to use the industry's manpower and equipment with greater efficiency than ever before.